

Reply to Office Action dated October 26, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-10, and 12-18 are pending in the application. By this Amendment claims 1, 3, 10, and 12 are amended, and claims 2 and 11 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8 and 10-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kim, World Patent No. WO 02/44458 A1 or Weimer, German Patent No. DE 19651292 A1 in view of Haviland, U.S. Patent No. 258,061. Independent claims 1 and 10 have been amended to include the features of claims 2 and 11, respectively, and claims 2 and 11 have been canceled. The rejection is respectfully traversed in so far as it applies to claims 1, 3-8, 10, 12-17.

Neither Kim nor Weimer, taken alone or in combination with Haviland, disclose or suggest at least a substantially planar flange that extends outward from an outer circumference of the head, wherein the narrow cut-away portion extends from an outer circumference of the flange in toward the head, as recited in independent claims 1 and 10, or the respective claimed combinations. That is, in the Examiner's rejection, she argues that Kim or Weimer disclose all of the claimed features of independent claims 1 and 10 except the claimed head part. She then refers to Haviland, arguing the Haviland disclose a bolt having a head, a cut-away portion, and a flange. The Examiner then concludes that it would have been obvious to modify Kim or Weimer in view of Haviland. However, Haviland merely discloses a fastener head having a traverse central slit b, connected at right angles with side slits c and c', all which terminate in a

circle forming a hole d that extends through the entire head. Haviland does not disclose or suggest a substantially planar flange that extends outward from an outer circumference of the head, wherein the narrow cut-away portion extends from an outer circumference of the flange in toward the head.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 1 and 10 over Kim or Weimer and Haviland should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 3-8 and 12-17 are allowable over Kim, Weimer, and Haviland at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 10, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 9 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kim (or Weimer) and Haviland, and further in view of Ory, U.S. Patent No. 4,624,117. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 9 and 18 are allowable over Kim, Weimer, and Haviland at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 10, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features. Ory fails to overcome the deficiencies of Kim, Weimer, and Haviland, as it is merely cited for allegedly teaching a protrusion on a power cable. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 9 and 18 over Kim, Weimer, Haviland, and Ory should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-8 and 10-17 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/433,159 in view of Haviland.

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As set forth above, Kim, taken alone or in combination with Haviland, fails to disclose or suggest a substantially planar flange that extends outward from an outer circumference of the head, wherein the narrow cut-away portion extends from an outer circumference of the flange in toward the head, as recited in independent claims 1 and 10, or the respective claimed combinations. Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 1 and 10 over Kim and Haviland should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 3-8 and 12-17 are allowable over Kim and Haviland at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 10, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

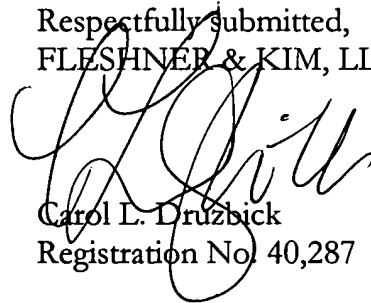
Serial No. **10/718,618**

Docket No. **K-0560**

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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